

# The Cotteridge Church

**3rd before Advent** Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November



## Hymn

1 Sing praise to God who reigns above,  
the God of all creation,  
the God of power, the God of love,  
the God of our salvation.  
With healing balm my soul is filled  
and every faithless murmur stilled:  
to God all praise and glory!

2 What God's almighty power has made  
that will he ever cherish,  
and will, unfailing, soon and late,  
with loving-kindness nourish;  
and where he rules in kingly might  
there all is just and all is right;  
to God all praise and glory!

3 The Lord is never far away,  
but through all grief distressing,  
an ever present help and stay,  
our peace and joy and blessing.  
As with a mother's tender hand,  
he leads his own, his chosen band:  
to God all praise and glory!

4 O you who name Christ's holy name  
give God all praise and glory;  
let all who own his power proclaim  
aloud the wondrous story!  
Cast each false idol from its throne,  
the Lord is God, and he alone:  
to God all praise and glory!

StF 117

J Schutz, F Cox, H Thwaites

## Bible Readings

Jonah 3 1-5, 10

Psalm 62 6 – 14

Hebrews 9 24- 28

Mark 1 14-20

## Collect for 3rd before Advent

God, our refuge and strength,  
bring near the day when wars shall cease and  
poverty and pain shall end,  
that earth may know the peace of heaven  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

## 3<sup>rd</sup> before Advent

In the middle ages a juggler was juggling his coloured balls and pins in the market place when some monks came by. The juggler expressed his desire to be a monk. The monks said, "What can you do?" The juggler replied, "I juggle". The monks said, "Well, you will have to change your ways." The juggler became Brother Lawrence in the monastery. Years passed and one Christmas the monks decided that each one would present a masterpiece to the infant Jesus. All but Lawrence came up with an idea. On Christmas eve, Lawrence locked himself in the church. The monks thought he had gone mad. They ran up the choir loft and looked down. There was Lawrence juggling before the crib scene. They were going to go down and seize him as one gone berserk. But as Lawrence finished his juggling, the monks saw the infant in the manger reach out with a smile. Lawrence had given his all.